

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, March 8, 1877, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel Hubbard from Mr. Alexander Graham Bell. Cambridge, March 8th., 1877. My darling Alec:

I am sorry you will have no letter from me by today's post, I delayed and of course lost the mail.

I went up to the University this afternoon, and Mrs. Crane called Mr. Jones out to me. He stood looking at your note in silence so long that I asked him if he were Mr. Jones, then he opened it, then Mr. Butterfield came, and I gave his Cousin Sam's address, telling him to send your letters there — then I left. Mr. Jones stood with his back to me and did not say Goodbye. Then I wandered disconsolately up and down through the streets, spending a good deal more money than was necessary and finally reached the Boston and Albany half an hour too early.

I wonder what you have been doing all day long while I was wandering about trying to kill time. How much nobler your life is than mine, so full and busy. If I only had half your work we both of us would be so much better off, you know a day of idleness is worse than a week of work. There, I am inclined to moralise tonight. The duchesse's "And the moral of this is — — —", has got into my head.

Cousin Mary arrived safely, quarter of an hour early and I am thankful to be back here.

How are Grandpapa, Auntie and Mr. Marsh? Does Grandpa look tired and worn, give him my love.

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I wonder how you gentlemen are getting on, whether things are satisfactorily arranged or plunged deeper into confusion. When are you going to have your experiment between Boston and N.Y.?

I went to Miss Putnams again she has apparently given you up at last, and now only invites me to lunch. Only O dear she has saddled 2 poor me with a promise to write to her now and then, the now and then will be very far apart I guess. Nobody so easy to get a promise from as I or so hard to get the performances.

I haven't anything to say, except that I love you and want to see you very much and that I am constantly with you in my thoughts.

Please don't show this.

With love, Ever your loving, May.